

HISTORY AT HOME

#TXHistoryAtHome

Hispanic Heritage

DR. CARMEN TAFOLLA,
1951-

JOVITA IDÁR,
1885-1946

“When you educate a woman,
you educate a family.”

LYDIA MENDOZA,
Lark of the Border
1916-2007



JOVITA IDÁR

Idár was a journalist who wrote about crimes against Tejanos. She thought women's rights were civil rights. Idár became president of the League of Mexican Women in 1911. She made some people mad when she wrote an editorial in the newspaper *El Progreso*. The Texas Rangers were sent to shut down the newspaper, but Idár didn't let them in.

What would you write about?

What current civil rights issue would you write about?

What would you want to accomplish as the leader of a civil rights organization?

DR. CARMEN TAFOLLA

Tafolla grew up in San Antonio and was told she might make it as far as high school. She went to college and earned a Ph.D. In the mid-1960s, the Chicano Literary Movement had begun. Writers took pride in who they were, in their neighborhoods, and in working together to get their work in print. Tafolla was the city of San Antonio's first Poet Laureate. She was also named the first Poet Laureate of the State of Texas. She wrote more than thirty books and her awards include the Americas Award from the Library of Congress.

Write a poem about your family or neighborhood.

LYDIA MENDOZA

At the age of four, Mendoza built She earned money for her family when she was in her teens. Mendoza began recording songs in the mid-1930s. She was forced to stay in homes on the road in West Texas because of discrimination against Mexican Americans. Mendoza later toured all over the world. Her many awards include the National Medal of Arts.

Listen for free to "*Mundo Engañoso*" ("Deceptive World") on soundcloud.com/lydia-mendoza-official/mundo-enganoso-2. The lyrics are available in Spanish and English on lyricstranslate.com/en/mundo-enganoso-deceptive-world.html.

Make up a song about being far away from home and missing people you love.

